

Message Text

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ACTION H-03

INFO OCT-01 NEA-06 ISO-00 SS-07 NSC-06 AID-01 /024 W

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R 141302Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3376

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BEIRUT 3300

E.O. 11652: N/A DECON 3-14-76

TAGS: OREP (MCGOVERN, GEORGE)

SUBJECT: CODEL MCGOVERN

REF: STATE 53471

1. RECENT CONFESSIONAL/POLITICAL CRISIS CAUSED BY EVENTS IN SIDON AND PREOCCUPATION OF SENIOR GOL OFFICIALS WITH IT HAVE PREVENTED US FROM DEVELOPING FULLY DEFINED SCHEDULE FOR CODEL VISIT AS REQUESTED PARA 9 REFTEL. HOWEVER, WE EXPECT TO SUBMIT TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR CODEL TO DEPT EARLY IN COMING WEEK.

2. IN ADDITION TO SEEKING MEETINGS MAR 27-28 WITH GOL OFFICIALS, WE HAVE IN MIND ARRANGING BRIEFING FOR CODEL AT UNRWA HEADQUARTERS BY COMGEN RENNIE AND DEPUTY COMGEN MCELHINEY. WE ARE ALSO ATTEMPTING TO ARRANGE MEETING WITH WALID KHALIDI AS REQUESTED REFTEL, BUT OUR EFFORTS ARE HAMPERED BY FACT THAT KHALIDI--FOR REASONS ALREADY KNOWN TO DEPT--IS CHARY OF CONTACTS WITH US OFFICIALS THESE DAYS. (HE DID MEET PRIVATELY WITH CODEL PERCY IN JANUARY, HOWEVER, AND WE HOPEFUL THAT HE CAN BE INDUCED TO TALK WITH CODEL MCGOVERN.) SCHEDULE FOR MAR 28 MAY ALSO BE COMPLICATED BY FACT ITT WILL BE GOOD FRIDAY HOLIDAY HERE.

3. WOULD APPRECIATE CODEL'S REACTION TO FOREGOING, AS WELL AS TO SUGGESTION RE MAR 28 STAG DINNER HOSTED BY AMBASSADOR GODLEY (BEIRUT 3169).

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DOES CODEL WISH GIVE SMALL PRESS CONFERENCE

(15-20 LOCAL AND WESTERN NEWSMEN) WHILE IN BEIRUT,
SIMILAR TO THAT GIVEN BY CODEL PERCY. IN ADDITION,
WOULD STAFFAIDES TILLMAN AND BARON PREFEER ACCOMPANY
SENATOR MCGOVERN THROUGHOUT HIS VISIT, OR WOULD THEY
WELCOME ALLOWING TIME IN SCHEDULE FOR THEM TO MEET SOME
OF TILLMAN'S PREVIOUS CONTACTS IN BEIRUT?
GODLEY

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